

AMENDMENT

Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all previous listings or versions thereof:

1. (Currently amended) A kit for ~~diagnosing a condition of early vascular dysfunction and/or vascular disease and/or spontaneous abortion~~, said kit comprising:

~~means for testing the presence and/or the concentration of antibodies to Platelet Activating Factor (PAF) and/or antibodies to an antigen that binds to antibodies to PAF in a sample of body fluid of a patient to be tested for early vascular dysfunction and/or vascular disease and/or spontaneous abortion;~~

~~said means for testing comprising a ligand selected from the group consisting of — (a) phosphocholine, phosphoryleholine and lysophosphatidyleholine; and~~

~~means for determining from the assayed concentration of either or both of said antibodies whether or not the patient at risk for having cardiovascular disease and/or early atherosclerosis and/or spontaneous abortion (b) a reagent for detecting antibodies bound to phosphocholine.~~

2. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]The kit for diagnosing early vascular dysfunction and/or vascular disease and/or spontaneous abortion, said kit~~of claim 1, further comprising

~~means for testing the presence and/or the concentration of antibodies to Platelet Activating Factor (PAF) and/or antibodies to an antigen that binds to antibodies to PAF; and~~

~~means for testing for~~a reagent for assessing the concentration of at least one further diagnostic indicator for said disease or condition~~marker~~ selected from the group consisting of cholesterol, blood lipids or p-hydroxyphenylaldehyde-lysine.

3-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 1, wherein said ~~means for testing the presence and/or the concentration of antibodies to PAF and/or of antibodies to an antigen that binds to antibodies to PAF~~ comprises ~~means for measuring either or both of said antibodies~~reagent measures said antibodies by immunoassay.

6. (Currently amended) The kit of claim ~~[[1]]~~5, wherein said ~~means for testing the presence and/or the concentration of antibodies to PAF and/or of antibodies to an antigen that binds to antibodies to PAF~~ comprises ~~measuring either or both of said antibodies~~reagent measures said antibodies by an enzyme linked immunoassay.

7. (Currently amended) The kit of claim ~~[[1]]~~5, wherein said ~~means for testing the presence and/or the concentration of antibodies to PAF and/or of antibodies to an antigen that binds to antibodies to PAF~~ comprises ~~means for providing measuring either or both of said antibodies~~reagent measures said antibodies by radioimmunoassay.

8. (Currently amended) The kit of claim ~~[[1]]~~5, wherein said ~~means for testing is adapted to act on said sample of body fluid which is serum prepared from a blood sample~~reagent is a anti-Ig antibody, a labeled anti-Ig antibody, non-immobilized phosphocholine and/or labeled non-immobilized phosphocholine.

9. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 1, wherein said ~~means for testing is adapted to act on said sample of body fluid which is plasma prepared from a blood sample~~phosphocholine is immobilized.

10. (Currently amended) The kit of claim ~~[[1]]~~9, wherein said ~~sample of body fluid is a human blood sample or fraction thereof, and said means for testing the presence and/or the concentration of antibodies to PAF and/or of antibodies to an antigen that binds to antibodies to PAF~~ comprises ~~measuring either or both of said antibodies by immunoassay~~phosphocholine is immobilized on a plate, membrane or bead.

11-15. (Canceled)